We greet thee for the mothers, And for the leving sires.
Who call the little endigen.
Around the honeshold from:
We greek three nith usreet carels.
With offerings free and glod.
And gilts more rare and procloss.
Thus Hestern imag had.

Unto the Child of Mary
What shall the mothers give
But golden doods of mercy.
To all on earth who live?
We greet then for the agest,
Who half the drawning light
Which afreams from lettle bless's manger
As star of promise bright.

We greet thee with hosannas
And hallujah sernot.
For they who seek the Heat Child
Have nexty reached his free.
Unto the hope of Nations
What shall the aged raise?
Sweet olders of thenkediving
And frankingerse of praise.

We greet thee for the mourners
Who raise the holy hyden.
From hearts bowed down with surrow
And spek with pars grown dim.
We twing suid the holy
The opposes and the yew.
And keep the touch with bitter herbs—
The wormwood and the rue.

The myrrh of human angulsh To offer shall we dare.

Till in the lamril's pure occaser. The changes to inconse rare? We great these for the children, Fair grief and stalwart boys, Who usher in the davaling With revolvy and noise.

We bring no well-filled cashets, but in our neartwhellers.
Twill be a girt most procious.
To lovingly receive.
And He who sent the Christophild
Hath humbly-sleigned to say:
"The better than huran-offering
In meckness to obey."

O. Christmast happy Christmast
Be not in his no to go,
We've wover wreaths of holly
And merry mistleroe;
O. blessed Christmas ovening,
Why doot thou haste away?
Bell roand, New Year, and bring to us
Another Christmas day.

Kate Lagrence, in N. I. Examiner.

Absalom Strong.

"It's terble, but the"

Old Absolom Strong stood in his shed door and looked out into the falling rain. As he had said, it was Indeed disagrees able, that is if the quantity of cain could make it so. The month of December was wearing away and with it was vanishing the signs of winter. The snow had come early; the ground had been previously well frozen; the awangs filled to be the weaker vessel, and he arises a might be the previously well frozen; the awangs filled to be the weaker vessel, and he arises a might be to be the weaker vessel, and he arises a might be the problem. The same had been previously well frozen; the awangs filled the source of the problem of the

Absalom Strong had contracted to haul a large quantity of hemlock bark Tree State. to a tannery a number of miles away. and from all appearances would have made an excellent thing out of it had it not been for the studen collapse of all these fairy air-eastles, or rather frost-eastles, for spite of the aforesaid favorable prognostications, the chilling breath

can't tell fer the life o' me why's come,' said the sharp voice of Mrs. Strong, as

be dide her leadand master in the wide door of the shot.

Absalam was exceedingly well-to-do and much of their prosperity, so the neighbors asserted, he owed to his careful, saving, serimping helpmoet, who tolled early and late, and whom he almost invariably consulted on all business matters, though for once in this bark-hauling arrangement he had negs.

I occurrence on a business error as beariness error and that you had a cow that you had a cow that you had a cow that you wished to soll—one that would give milk all winter. My cow was insuched in the window and provention on the window, pane with his fingers; "I did have one that I though some of sellin'; but I think I'll kneed before the house and applied his kneedes to the door. He could not have told, for the life of him, whether it bark-hauling arrangement he had neg- I ever see."

"I am sorry; I had hoped that you."

could command, "that I damake a good thing out of it, but-

teld ve, time an agin: to all ays leave a little locway, a sorter margin; same's when ye start a load in the snow ye want a chance to rack the sled. I

Absalom winged and looked furtively to do?" at his wife, who had assumed an orator-ical attitude and was swinging her bony right arm in eather-langerous proximit

outlook again:

At this moment a half-grown boy, bearing a strong resemblance to Abealom, came hurrying into the sheet, shaking the moisture from his clothing like ing the moisture from his clothing like all worn out, and is not able to work all worn out, and is not able to work all worn out, and is not able to work

a huge dog just emerged from a bath.
"Well," said both parents in a breath, now himself; he I must wait for my out thought ye was helpin' Si Wallace pay."

tinish off his tie-up."

"So I was," returned the youthful Strong. "But ye see the Widder Nason's cow slipped on the ice an' hurt her se's she couldn't get up, an' 8i he went an helped get how into the barn. "Yes, sir," answered Mrs. Nason. Mr. Strong wriggied about in his went an helped get how into the barn. "I'm sorcy fer Jake," he mut-There wa'n't any money in it, an' so I tered, am home. Guesa she'll lose the cow." A si

do ye a poss we'll end our days?"

al'aye a givin' away somethin'. Last spring ye give Pete Jimes a pig----

o'Twas a runt, an' wa'n't wuth raisin'," interrupted the more charitably
disposed husband, but Polly was not
allenced.
"An' then ye give away a calf last

before, as he well know that, judging
from present appearances, he would allow.

Aballom
unable to fill his contract. But he
waited in silence for the other to make
thown his orwand.

fall an'—"

"That calf, ye know, was half sick, an the feel he'd eat was with mor'n he'd be in the spring. So I didn't lose nothin' in him," again interpreted Absolute.

"What I wanted to ask was whether policy touch a salom."

"What I wanted to ask was whether again."

Abalom was about to jump at the somethin' of that sort. You let Bill offer when Mrs. Strong stopped him was agreeably surprised at his own finsomethin' of that sort. You let Bill offer when Mrs. Strong stopped him was agreeably surprised at his own finsort bar and he seed onto a surprised at his own finsort of many many agreeably surprised at his own finsort, while Jacob Smith, after his first
toes an' I don't know who you didn't up for?" she asked, as her husband from Abalom Strong, fell to wondering letp. Prhaps ye think they'll build a

aiddle of January. "Wa'n't there a forfelt?" sharply and said:

He shifted uneasily in his chair and but the lrate Mr. Case would listen to she went on about her work. She turned to him again in a few moments.

"You didn't less nothin on that Smith place, anyway," she said, as though she did not consider him as alto-

Nason.

She was a rather fragile appearing I'm done with. I'm sick on't." of winter had given place to almost springlike mildness, and Absalom Absalom dreaded to have her break the silence, for he had a presunddenly impassable, and his horses numbed their hay and outs in idleness. She was a rather fragile appearing of m done with. I'm sick on i.

"What do you mean by doin' the right thing by Jake Smith?" questioned Polity, as Absalom ceased speaking, anonition that she was about to ask a favor, and he had a certain aversion to munched their hay and outs in idleness. Set the sole support of a family, and Absalom dreaded to have her break the silence, for he had a premonition that she was about to ask a favor, and he had a certain aversion to munched their hay and outs in idleness. Set the sole support of a family, and Absalom dreaded to have her break the silence, for he had a premonition that she was about to ask a favor, and he had a certain aversion to munched their hay and outs in idleness. Set the sole support of a family, and Absalom dreaded to have her break the silence, for he had a premonition that she was about to ask a favor, and he had a certain aversion to munched their hay and outs in idleness.

waited. At length she spoke:

she came and stood with arms akimbo.
beside her lord and master in the wide cand; but I heard that you had a cow that you wished to call. "I know this is not an altogether dened with a weighty mission

"You'll lose money on this spec, anyway," continued Mrs. Strong, or Aunt
time to pay for it. My eldest boy will
Polly as she was generally called. "Ef work away from home this winter if
you'd a asket me fit a taid ye bettern's
the weather gets cold enough and snow. comes. Then you couldn't really let me have her?" There was a ploading "I thought sure. Polly," answered have her?" There was a pleading Mr. Strong, in as plaintive a voice as he earnestness in the woman's voice that moved the man more than he would have

deemed possible.
"I would like to accommerdate ye, "But," snapped his amiable partner, "I would like to accommendate ye," this 'ere talkin' about its and buts and ha began, and then Polly stalked into

"Absalom Strong," she said, grimly "don't ye go an' make a fool of y'rself agin. It's flyin' into the face of Provience to take such resks as you shouldn't be surprised of ye died in the Then she turned to Mrs. Nason. "Ain't poor-house."

The pale face of the woman flushed. "I suppose I can." she answered. "I have been helping Mr. Smith's folks. to his prominent nose. Then he turned his wrinkled face toward the watery and I helped them what time I had to

iom us his son ceased speaking.

"Taint nothin' to you how she gits along. Absalom was about to reply, but at this moment wagon wheels ratiled over turned Absalom, whose courage re-bound to add, however, that the gen-

had made the bark-hauling contract.

Again Absalom Strong became un-easy, this time with more reason than as well as her youth and lack of strength politic citizen is thus admonished at

"I wuz to have it all hauled by the ly upon his head and made for the door, even Polly has evinced at certain times. With his hand upon the latch he turned a slight show of generosity, or perhaps

A GREEN CHRISTMAS.

"Wa'n't there a forfeit?" sharply queried the wife.

"Yes, there was," he returned, somewhat reductantly. "I was to pay \$200 of it wa'n't delivered by that time. But I don't b'lieve Mr. Case'll make me pay Abadom and said:

"I beg pardon for making any propositions whatever. Let the contract videom of it wa'n't delivered by that time. But I don't b'lieve Mr. Case'll make me pay Abadom and said:

"I beg pardon for making any propositions whatever. Let the contract videom of it wa'n't delivered by that time. But I don't b'lieve Mr. Case'll make me pay Abadom and said:

"I beg pardon for making any propositions whatever. Let the contract videom of it wa'n't delivered by that time. But I delivered at the time specified, I shall and any propositions whatever. Absolom embervored to expostulate

with water and everything indicated a The next day it cleared off, and Christ- inte, "and he ground his teeth savagety regular old-fashioned New England mas came as fair and smilling as could "I think there's such a thing is winter."

The next day it cleared off, and Christ- inte, "and he ground his teeth savagety mas came as fair and smilling as could drawin' the string a feetle too tight." that decey covering without which the ha continued, as Polly sat in silence, for holiday seemed unnatural in the Pino once at a loss what to any tun Pino Tree State.

Early in the forenoon a black-robed figure came up to the door of Absalon. Strong's domicile: a tremulous knock sounded upon the panel, and the man of the bouse ushered in the Widow Nason.

This grindin', an pinchla', un sarewin' the bouse ushered in the Widow Nason.

munched their hay and outs in idleness. Rainstorm followed rainstorm, and now he had proof positive that it would restant across the had proof positive that it would restant across the had proof positive that it would restant and bring something substantial with it.

She threw back her veil, while Mr. said, an' I'm agoin now, afore I gire. house with the look of a man who is bur-

Polly Strong sat as one in a dream.

have told, for the life of him, whether it was indignation at his wife or a desire to do good, but he it either he felt a strange satisfaction in pursuing his

little girl who answered his knock

Darned of it don't make a man feel

oming face to face with him now was Times not pleasing, even though he brought cheering news to the inmates of the

His low rap was answered by a hollow-

ould allow.

Absalom Strong looked carefully better, but also feel better, if he stands around the room. There was nothing of Christmas obser visible, and then he

here to stay to see of I couldn't sorter two and one-third cups flour. Bake in lift you up a lectic, 'cause I knowed you was cast down, an't this is Christmas

symptoms of this commendable virtue would suit the ease better.-J. W. Davidson, in Springfield (Mass.) Repub-

USEFUL COSTUMES.

How Skirts are Made and Finished Now-

on be formed in either medium or

arge fold.

A simple plan for making a woolen costume is to use double-width material for the skirt. This is passed around the figure and has only one seam, that in the back instead of the usual gored breadths; all the fullness is massed in layers of plaits that fall in with the placket hole behind. Darts are taken n the top of the front and sides to make he skirt fit smoothly over the gored foundation skirt. The lower portion may be finished in any desirable style. One authority states that winter tollcites will have the skirts merely plaifed at the back, the breadths being then al-

lowed to full loose over a simulated skirt, which is edged round the foot with narrow flounce or fluting. This is the nearest approach to simplicity achieved, for the front and sides of many skirts are trimmed or draped more ar less claborately. A stylish skirt is made perfectly plain

and round and is about two yards and This has been my nightly programme a half wide at the foot. It is pheated in for about two weeks, and you see the large hollow pleats, fastened, down at the waist only. Over this skirt is draped narrow seart, which turns off over the ting is tied at the back and falls over he skirt in two lapels. It is very stylish.

A practical suit for November wear is made of plain French sansparell poplin has just been introduced. The ground is in the same shade as the plain sansparell poplin, while the figures are small embroidered dots like evelets, some times three of them grouped together with attractive effect. The suit is made after Democest's model. The Rains-"ls y'r mother in?" he asked of a after Democest's model. The Rainsford costume of dark blue, plain poplins for skirt, which has box-pleating at for skirt, which has box-pleating at lower edge, and is trimmed with answer, and then as the widow appeared rows of silver plaid-braid. The over-he said hastity. "Mrs. Nason, I've been thinkin' that lin in same rich blue and has revers any you can have that cow any held in position by a row of antique over, an' you can have that cow, an' pay me when yer git ready. I don't want nothin' to show for it.'

Without waiting to hear her thanks Without waiting to hear her thanks of plaided braid. The tight-fitting vest is of plain poplin, closed with allver buttons and clucked tons and trimmed with a band of braid. "Sorry very sorry," continued the gorously to his horse. Turning tons and trimmed with a band of braid down front and about lower portion. ound in the wagon after he had gone little distance he muttered as he looked very much cut away and the extension in the side forms and back pieces laid in pleats on the inside, below the waistsoft to do a thing of that sort, arter line. The cont-shaped sleeves and stylish jucket are of the embroidered shall be compelled to request the lean of at the poverty stricken home of Then be drove along in steme till be arrived at the poverty-stricken bome of Jacob Smith. Somehow his cheerful-and deserted him as he got out of his antiquated vehicle and approached the door. He had not met the unfortunate Mr. Smith since the time he had been compelled to relinquish his home some months before, and the thought of coming face to face with him now was

The Wall-Dressed Man.

The golden rule in dress is to keep clear of extremes. The well-dressed eyed cadaverous man, who looked clear of extremes. The well-dressed almost fleroely into the rugged face of man never wears snything striking or There wa'n't any money in it, an' so I tered.

A sharp gleam came into the eyes of 'Massy sake; it's all the cow thoy've years, she whispered to her hustom as his son ceased speaking.

"Taint nothin' to you how she gits"

Absolon. What I say money in it, an' so I tered.

A sharp gleam came into the eyes of this hitherto tight-fixed neighbor.

"I suppose I must ask you in," said of the best material, one suit that cost the house, she whispered to her hustom as the "unlacky fisherman."

When a boy he was quite ungainly in the rugged face of his hitherto tight-fixed neighbor.

"I suppose I must ask you in," said of the best material, one suit that cost the national preferable to two suits that cost twenty-five each—and appearance, and his companions used the tailor's risk. It will be companions used considerable show of spirit. "Ef you're the key road and a man drew rein at his turned now the ice was broken, and he tleman who has but one suit instead of agoin to carry all their burdens where door. It was Mr. Case, with whom he followed his not overcordial host into two can not escape embarrassment. when it comes to sending his trousers "I hain't carryin' their jurdens, am
"Well." said the owner of the tan"out of cause y' can be sorry, but y're
"of cause y're
"of caus

> stempted to make known the object of .-- Almond Cake: Three eggs, two Now Jules -Mr. Smith I came over spoonful soda, one-half cup of butter,

FROLICS OF A FATHER.

Solld Comfort Taken by a Young Married Man White Inducing to Simuler Bia First Born Son and Belr.

Having settled themselves at a table

the set of the state of the sta Nothing was done in haste. Each picture, chair, ornament, would receive a minute inspection from these wideopened blue eyes, and your humble servant kept digging away at the trot! trot! and 'sh-h-h' scheme all the while. Suddenly there would be a slow closing of the little white, lids and Some Hints for Dressmakers.

There are many methods of plaiting or. Then he'd sigh a tired little sigh, skirts nowadays. They are kilted, side and when I was sure he was fast asleep pleated, single, double and triple box blaiting, and what is still better for But Just as I would lean over to lay plaiting, and what is still better for him down he'd open his eyes, coo hapwoolen goods they are accordeon plaited by the Kursheedt accordeon plaiting machine with such pressure that the plaits remain intact so long as the fabric of the chair, and begin the whole business.

The Greek plait is also new and triple box. But just as I would lean over to my him down he'd open his eyes, coo happlayed and seem to say: 'Oh, I'm not usleep; I was just having some fun with you,' and there was nothing to do but to take him back to the chair, and begin the whole business. an hour would drag wearily by, and a second time the baby's eyes would close and sleep appear to have come at last. How carefully I'd sneak over to the crib and goully lay him on his little quilt. How tenderly I'd tack him in and wish that he'd sleep for a week or more to give me a chance to eatch up on what I'd lost. He doesn't move, and I tip-toe to the bed that had known so little of me for some time. I speak in

under the covers, stretch myself, think there never was anything so comfort-able as that bed, and close my eyes for a refreshing nap, when there come from the crib a suspicious grant, fol lowed by a string of spasmodic coughe not an unmistakable yell. Painfully climb out of the restful bed, snatch the infant from his downy couch and quiet him with the same old trot! trot! trot! while the chill night breezes float the flapping flap of my night-shi. This has been my nightly program: result before you. I haven't slept twen ty consecutive minutes in twenty con secutive days. You said something about having comfort with that boy, fondly hoped I'd get it. I'm still hop-ing." And the gloomy look again stole over the face of the happy father. His eyes guzed vacantly into space as he mechanically made his way to the door and with shuffling, uncertain step, he tottered away. - Chicago Tribuni

Served Him Right.

"I-I wanted to ask your opinion about a little matter, and also secure your advice," he said, as he cornered a nember of the City Council on one of

the city hall porches yesterday.
"Well, sir, what can I do for you" "Is it your opinion that we shall have an open winter?"
Why, sir, I-1 can't really say.

"Sorry very sorry," continued the other; "I have got to go to Chicago on foot. If you could guarantee me fine wenther I wouldn't need to ask you to lend me more than half a dollar. you can't do that, and as I am hable to

won't predict an open winter ought to be bled.— Detroit Free Press.

TOO UGLY TO CATCH FISH. Bob Toombs as a Fisherman-A Toogh

scarcel the fishes away. All through his career he neverbad any back in angling He would sit for hours on the banks of a stream impatiently awaiting a bits and cursing his luck, while other around him were landing tish by the dozen. After lishing all day in Georgia stream he drew up a huge muc turtle. He cat his name in full on the hard shell and throw the turtle back into the water.

Two years afterward he was fishing turtle. It was the very same turtle or which he had inscribed his name, but he was astonished to find below his name the words: "Too ngly to eatch fish."

A waggish friend had caught the deni-zen of the mad and cut the line below. nothin' on him," again interposed Alisalom.

What I wanted to ask was whether with a poly's teeth came together with a properly of the single that the first appeal of the kind.

Polly's teeth came together with a properly of the kind of no you wouldn't like to throw up the victors susp. "See here now, Ab, don't job."

The story went that Toomis caught when every man order try an' make this identical turtle no less than live aome one happy."

It was the first speech of the kind.

It was the first speech of the kind.



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